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Mike Bavier — President

The President's Message

Water, water everywhere, and how does your grass grow? This is a frequently asked question this year in the Chicago area. The wet spring we experienced that continued right into June did cause many problems for us too numerous to mention. Mother Nature sure does have a way of putting so called "experts" in their places. I say "so called" because anyone that has an occupation so dependent on the weather certainly is at the mercy of Mother Nature. The over abundance of rain was followed with temperatures and humidity of about 85 degrees and per cent respectively, give or take a little. Those long drawn-out days seemed to drain one's last ounce of strength and that of our grass. We wondered if there would be any relief, then all of a sudden we were blessed with a cooling spell.

I can well understand what it must be like to play on a losing baseball team—to get up every morning and realize your chances of winning are little or none. There are not too many of us that complain about getting up early most every morning Monday thru Sunday and even Holidays, but when our grass is at the breaking point or just plain sick, we quickly become fatigued. To add to our woes, the play at our courses seems to be on the increase—ladies' day, junior matches, men's day, couples' guest day, and whatever else. We sometimes wonder what's next. However, just as professional baseball players must continue to play as well as they are able despite a losing streak, we, as golf course superintendents, must continue to perform to our best capacities, even under adverse conditions. We can only strive to keep our courses in the best possible condition despite the heavy play we have in the summer and the sometimes erratic weather conditions.

We must also think of ways of improving our courses—maybe with better drainage, incorporating more bent grass, rebuilding small tees, just to mention a few. Playing on a losing team is not really all that bad, it is having the coach give up trying to build for the future that lets one down. When things look a little bleak, you, too, as a manager of your course can start looking ahead. Now is the time to start improving and planning for the future.

NOTICE

No Dinner Tickets will be sold to anyone unless he is wearing a coat or sport jacket.

Attendance at July 17 meeting — 84 for dinner, 72 played golf.

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Dorothy Carey	349-7766
Mike Bavier	358-7030
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